

STATE OF LOUISIANA

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA



Kathleen Babineaux Blanco Governor John Ducrest, CPA Commissioner

Contact:

Sid Seymour, Chief Examiner

Phone: (225) 925-4660 Fax: (225) 925-4548

Email: <u>offila@off.louisiana.gov</u> Website: www.off.louisiana.gov FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 14, 2006

PRESS RELEASE—INVESTAR BANK OPENS IN BATON ROUGE

Effective today, Wednesday, June 14, 2006, "Investar Bank" located at 7246 Perkins Road, Baton Rouge, East Baton Rouge Parish, Louisiana, opened for business. "Investar Bank" successfully raised \$8.2 million in capital from Louisiana residents. John J. D'Angelo will serve as President and Chief Executive Officer, William Henry Hidalgo, Sr., as Chairman of the Board, Rachel Pourciau Cherco as Cashier and Chief Operations Officer, Justin Jerome DeKeyzer as Chief Credit Officer, and Holly Ann Hidalgo-DeKeyzer as Senior Vice President of Lending of the new commercial bank.

The bank will provide a full array of banking products and services primarily to individuals, professionals, and their closely held businesses. Commissioner John Ducrest stated that this is the third new commercial bank to open in Louisiana this year and the second to open in Baton Rouge. He also expressed confidence that bank management has the desire, expertise, and resources to play an integral role in business development in East Baton Rouge and surrounding parishes in the future.

###